

BROADBAND EXPANSION GRANT APPLICATION For Fiscal Year 2022

<p>Primary Applicant (Name and Address):</p> <p>CTC Telcom, Inc. DBA Mosaic Technologies/Town of Grant/Marshfield Clinic/Colfax School District</p> <p>CTC Telcom, Inc. DBA Mosaic Technologies 401 South First Street Cameron, WI 54822</p> <p>In partnership with the Dunn County, Town of Grant, Marshfield Clinic and Colfax School District</p>	<p>Applications MUST be UPLOADED to ERF via the Commission's website, http://psc.wi.gov/apps35/ERF_upload/content/mymenu.aspx. Refer to section 2.3 for detailed instructions.</p> <p>Applications are due and MUST be uploaded to ERF no later than: March 17, 2022 at 4:00pm (16:00) Central Time. Late applications will not be accepted.</p>
	<p>Contact for further information: PSCStatebroadbandoffice@wisconsin.gov</p>
	<p>Date: December 1, 2021</p>
<p>The Public Service Commission of Wisconsin is seeking applications for Broadband Expansion Grants. The Commission may award one or more grants during Fiscal Year 2022 to public and private entities that meet the eligibility requirements set forth in Wis. Stat. § 196.504. This grant round will be funded with bond proceeds authorized by the Wisconsin Building Commission pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 13.48(30). As such, successful applicants are subject to the requirements of Wis. Stat. § 13.48(30). Successful applicants will demonstrate a clear and achievable plan to improve broadband communications services in one or more underserved areas in the State.</p>	
<p>Applicant Certification: In signing this application, the undersigned verifies under penalty of perjury that the Applicant and its employees and agents have not, either directly or indirectly, entered into any agreement or participated in any collusion or otherwise taken any action in restraint of free competition with respect to this application; that no attempt has been made to induce any other person or firm to submit or not to submit an application; that this application has been independently arrived at without collusion with any other proposer, competitor or potential competitor; that this application has not been knowingly disclosed prior to the opening of applications to any other applicant or competitor; that all of the responses and representations of Applicant in this application are true and correct to the best of the undersigned's knowledge, information, and belief; and that Applicant agrees to, accepts, and will comply with all of the terms and conditions respecting this application and any award of a broadband expansion grant as may be established in a grant award Agreement.</p>	
<p>Name of Authorized Representative (Type or Print)</p> <p>Domenico Fornaro</p>	<p>Title</p> <p>CEO</p>
<p>Phone ()</p> <p>715-458-5400</p>	
<p>Signature of Authorized Representative</p> 	<p>Date</p> <p>March 16, 2022</p>

FY2022 Grant Township FTTP Broadband Expansion – CTC Telcom dba Mosaic Technologies

SUMMARY OF GRANT APPLICATION

Primary Applicant Name CTC Telcom, Inc. DBA Mosaic Technologies	Amount of Broadband Grant Request (round to nearest dollar) \$1,335,932 (83.1%)
Federal Employer Identification No. 39-1868406	Amount of Matching Funds Pledged (round to nearest dollar) \$272,077 (16.9%)
Contact Name and Title Domenico Fornaro, CEO	Total Cost of Proposed Project (round to nearest dollar) \$1,608,009
Telephone Number 715-458-5400	Project Name Grant Township FTTP Broadband Expansion
E-mail Address(es) dfornaro@experiencemosaic.com	Type of Proposed Broadband Service (FTTH, Cable, DSL, etc.) Fiber-to-the-Premises (FTTP)
Grant Manager, if different than Primary Applicant	Grant Manager Federal Employer Identification No.
Grant Manager Contact Name	Grant Manager Email Address and Telephone Number
<p>If the application proposes a public-private partnership, list the names, addresses, and FEINs of the partner companies or organizations</p> <p>Dunn County, N10360 County Road W, Colfax, WI 54730; FEIN 39-6005690 Township of Grant, in Dunn County, N10360 County Road W, Colfax, WI 54730; FEIN 39-1092847</p>	
<p>Brief Project Description</p> <p>This project provides Fiber to the Premises broadband to unserved and underserved areas in the Town of Grant. The specific area targeted has 131 homes and businesses.</p>	
Maximum Proposed Download Transmission Speed 10,000 Mbps	Maximum Proposed Upload Transmission Speed 10,000 Mbps
Minimum Proposed Download Speed Available To Purchase 25 Mbps	Minimum Proposed Upload Transmission Speed Available To Purchase 10 Mbps
County or Counties served by this project Dunn	Community or Communities served by this project Township of Grant
<p>List of the broadband service providers, if any, currently serving the area the applicant proposes to serve</p> <p>CenturyLink</p>	

FY2022 Grant Township FTTP Broadband Expansion – CTC Telcom dba Mosaic Technologies

Does proposed project serve an <u>unserved</u> area of the State, as defined in <u>Section 1.4</u> of the application instruction? (yes/no) Yes	Is the Applicant certified as a Broadband Forward! Community or Telecommuter Forward! Community, or does the grant project propose to serve a Broadband Forward! Community or Telecommuter Forward! Community? (yes/no) Yes
For last mile projects or component the expected number of Business Locations that will have access to the improved broadband service (i.e., total business locations passed or with new service access). 3	For last mile projects or components the expected number of Residential Locations that will have access to the improved broadband service (i.e., total residential locations passed or with new service access). 128
Of the improved business locations, how many locations are <i>unserved</i> ? 0	Of the improved residential locations, how many are <i>unserved</i> ? 100
For providers that are eligible telecommunications carriers will the proposed broadband service be available to Lifeline customers? (yes/no) Yes	Are there any programs available for low-income households to access low-cost service or discounts? (yes/no) Yes: Lifeline, and ACP for Broadband
Is the internet service provider currently participating in the Emergency Broadband Benefit Program? (yes/no) Yes, EBB and ACP.	Is the internet service provider currently participating in the Department of Public Instruction and CESA purchasing's Digital Learning Bridge? (yes/no) Yes
Did the internet service provider participate in the Public Service Commission's voluntary Broadband Coverage Data Collection in 2021? (yes/no) Yes	

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Summary of Project Budget and Funding Statement – Cost Categories and Revenue Sources

FY22 Broadband Expansion Grant Application
Budget & Income Summary



Please complete this form using Microsoft Excel. A PDF copy must be attached to your application as page four. In addition, this form must also be uploaded to ERF in Excel format.

Grant Summary

Grant Applicant:	Project:
CTC Telcom, Inc. dba Mosaic Technologies	Town of Grant

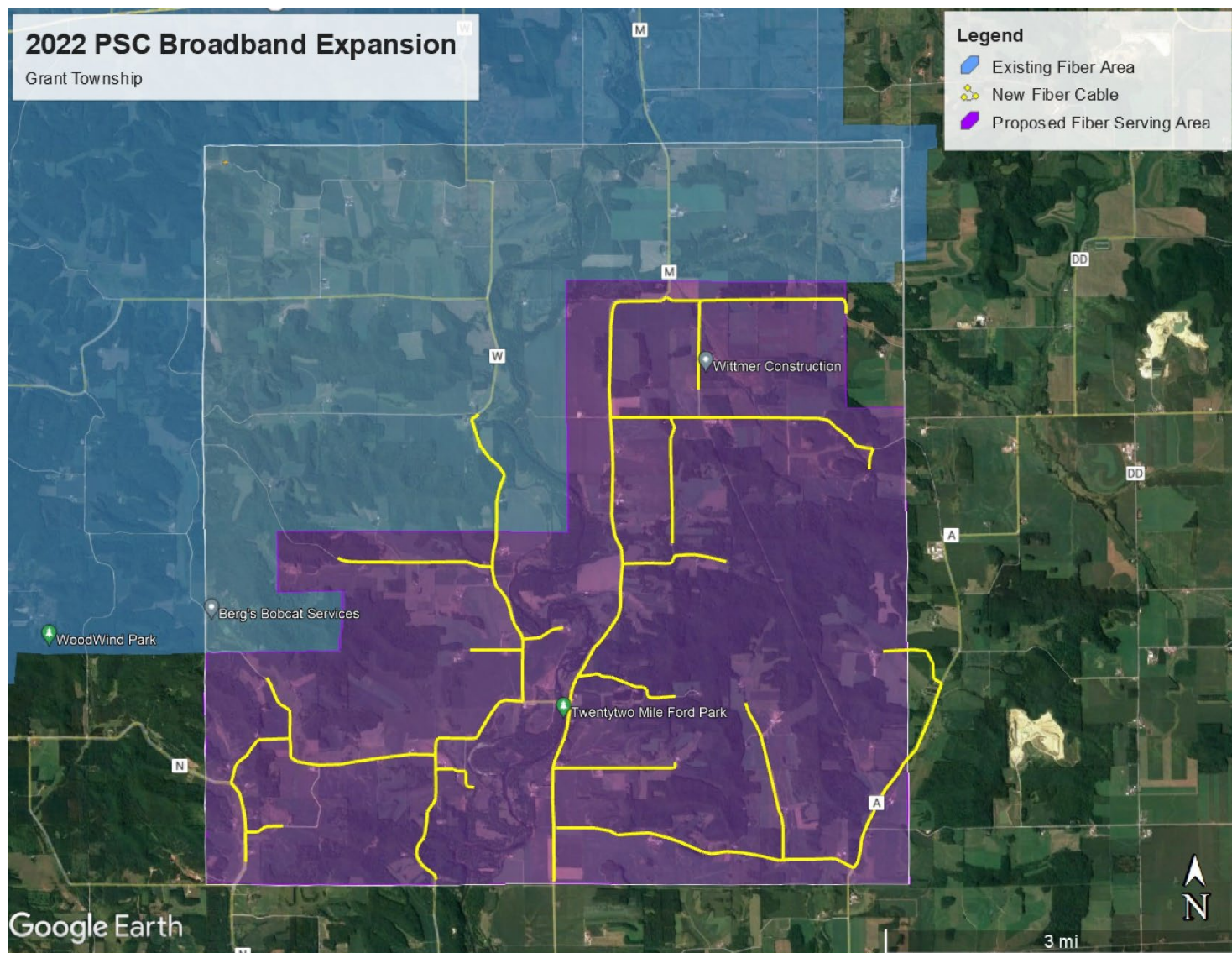
Budget

Line:	Description / Category:	Grant Funds:	Match:	Total:
1	Contractual, Consultant Fees	\$ 1,086,898.00	\$ 272,077.00	\$ 1,358,975.00
2	Equipment	\$ 72,751.00	\$ -	\$ 72,751.00
3	Supplies			\$ -
4	Labor (Salary, Fringe)	\$ 176,283.00	\$ -	\$ 176,283.00
5	Permitting, Licensing Fees			\$ -
6	Travel			\$ -
7	Other			\$ -
Total:		\$ 1,335,932.00	\$ 272,077.00	\$ 1,608,009.00
		16.9% match requested		

Pledged Contributions

#:	Entity:	Entity Type:	Pledge Type:	Pledge:
1	Mosaic Technologies	Applicant	Cash	\$ 200,000.00
2	Town of Grant	Partner	Cash	\$ 42,077.00
3	Marshfield Clinic	Other	Cash	\$ 10,000.00
4	Dunn County	Partner	Cash	\$ 20,000.00
5				
6				
7				
8				
9				
10				
Total:				\$ 272,077.00

Maps of Proposed Broadband Expansion in this Application



Yellow backbone, distribution and local fiber is initially an extension of Chibardun Telephone Cooperative's existing fiber at County Trunk W.

Costs for locations served in this application are exclusively within the lavender-shaded project area with the Town of Grant.

Executive Summary

CTC Telcom Grant Township FTTP Broadband Application

Last year, the Town of Grant approached CTC Telcom, Inc. dba Mosaic Technologies (hereinafter referred to as “Mosaic” or “Mosaic Technologies”) to jointly seek a state broadband grant that would cover the Town.

Mosaic Technologies, with the support of the Town of Grant, Dunn County, the Marshfield Clinic, and Colfax School District request a Fiscal Year 2022 Broadband Expansion Grant award of \$1,335,932 (83.1%) to construct 31.5 miles of fiber past 131 unserved locations in Grant Township in Dunn County in northwest Wisconsin. This project will deliver fiber-based, high-speed broadband where there are no options for adequate service. Mosaic and its partners will contribute \$272,077 (16.9%) in this rural hard to reach project.

The Town of Grant is very rural. 92% of its land base is agricultural or forest acreage. As a result, incumbent providers have neglected the area, and reportedly have no future plans in the area. As the COVID-19 pandemic exploded, residents were feeling the pain of being cut off from the world, remote schooling was challenging for children, and telecommuting options for quarantined employees were limited to non-existent.

Concerns remain as the Colfax School District distributed Chromebooks for remote learning, but students living in the Town of Grant could not do their homework at home. Marshfield Clinic, a pioneer in telemedicine, but 15 miles away from town, could not see its Grant residents. Dunn Energy Cooperative, serving the town, continued to have its local electric substation connected to the outside world via an unreliable cellular internet service.

Residents labeled their connection unreliable, unstable, detrimental, and frustrating. Telecommuter comments included, “upload speed is extremely important for remote work”, and “the current internet service is substantially inadequate.” Even the simple and expected routine tasks cannot be completed online for these people. Permanent residents and businesses struggled with their connections, and suddenly found themselves sharing that limited bandwidth with all the telecommuters. The incumbent provider has provided no indication of improving any services.

Fiber broadband plays a pivotal role in shaping the future economic expansion to the area.

Mosaic’s solution is to construct a futureproofed main line and drops using a fiber-to-the- premises (FTTP) configuration. To minimize long-term cost and damage to fiber, Mosaic proposes to install, splice, and certify service drops concurrently with main line cable. When completed, all residential and business customers will have access to broadband speeds up to 10 Gbps as well as voice and video entertainment services.

Neither the economic nor the social impact of this project can be overstated. Funding of this project is advantageous for the following economic and social reasons:

- * Premises in this area are unserved for current and future communications needs.
- * Expansion of distance learning for both traditional and non-traditional students.
- * Telecommuting becomes an option for residents of the project area. (See letters of support)
- * Business can attract patrons through technology and compete on an e-Commerce platform.
- * Lodges and resorts can attract and retain guests needing broadband connectivity.
- * Elimination of barriers to efficient business operations.
- * Rural/urban healthcare access divide reduced with telehealth capabilities.
- * Real estate values objectively increase with fiber connectivity.

This project would be a major boost to the residents and small businesses who are stranded with very little internet access. Many letters from multiple individuals and organizations including Marshfield Clinic Health System, Colfax Schools, Dunn County Energy Cooperative, Dunn County Economic Development, plus residents and businesses provide ample evidence of the critical need in this area. Using its current infrastructure, Mosaic proposes a comprehensive solution, including fiber drops to every home and business. Mosaic has a reputation for providing excellent products and services at reasonable cost while also supporting the communities they serve. This project is a continuation of its legacy.

3.2 Mandatory application requirements

3.2.1 Applicant identification and contact information

This application

- a. The name and address of the entity applying for the grant, and the mailing address, telephone number and e-mail address of one or more contact persons representing the applicant.

Name of Entity: CTC Telcom, Inc., dba Mosaic Technologies
Mailing Address: 401 South 1st Street, Cameron, WI 54822
Telephone Number: 715-458-5400
Contact: Domenico Fornaro, CEO
Email address: dfornaro@experiencemosaic.com

- b. If the application proposes a public-private partnership, the identity and contact information for all application partners.

This application is supported by a robust partnership between Mosaic Technologies, Grant Township, Dunn County, integrated health system/provider Marshfield Clinic, and the Colfax School District. All parties recognize the significant impact this project will have on the wider region. By providing fiber connectivity, the residents and businesses will gain broadband access at a level conducive to more than very basic connectivity. In these challenging times, this will provide a lifeline to this struggling area. Mosaic has received overwhelming interest in this project with attached letters of support from residents and businesses.

The following entities are collaborating to see this project completed:

Public-Private Partnership Agreement

Name of Entity: Town of Grant, Dunn County, WI
Mailing Address: N10360 County Road W, Colfax, WI 54730
Telephone Number: 715-568-3907
Contact: Chairman, Mark Dietsche – Email: bhaven@bloomer.net

Telecommuter Forward! and Broadband Forward!

Name of Entity: Dunn County Economic Development
Mailing Address: 800 Wilson, Suite 219, Menomonie, WI 54751
Telephone Number: 715-232-4009
Contact: Bob Bossany, Dunn County Economic Development Director

Name of Entity: Dunn County
Mailing Address: N10360 County Road W, Colfax, WI 54730
Telephone Number: 715-231-6401
Contact: Paul Miller, Administrative Coordinator

This application is generously supported through a matching funds pledge of \$10,000 from Marshfield Clinic Health System.

Name of Partner Entity: Marshfield Clinic Health System
Mailing Address: 1000 North Oak Avenue, Marshfield, WI 54449
Telephone Number: 715-221-5816
Contact: Chris Meyer, Director of Virtual Care

This application would not have been possible without the support and counsel of Colfax School District.

Name of Partner Entity: Colfax School District
Mailing Address: 601 University Avenue, Colfax, WI 54730
Telephone Number: 715-962-3155
Contact: Supervisor Superintendent William Yingst

- C. The application must show that the applicant is an organization, a telecommunications utility, or a city, village, town, or county that has established a legal partnership or joint venture arrangement with an otherwise qualified organization or telecommunications utility, and as such meets the eligibility requirements set forth in Wis. Stat. § 196.504(1).

CTC Telcom, Inc. dba Mosaic Technologies is an alternative telecommunications utility certified as an ETC (SAC 339001) by the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin (PSCW) to provide service as an Alternative Telecommunications Utility (ATU) in Docket 1455-NC-100.

CTC Telcom dba Mosaic Technologies (PSCW Utility #1455) provides service to the Rice Lake, Barron, Chetek, Turtle Lake, Cumberland, and Birchwood exchanges.

The Town of Grant approached Mosaic regarding interest primarily because of the Mosaic 2021 awarded grant in Otter Creek Township just to the west of Grant Township. To meet their current and future broadband needs, Mosaic and Grant Township formed a partnership to develop a plan to bring fiber-based infrastructure and services to their area.

3.2.2 Description of the project

- a. A static map and description of the area of the state that will be affected by the proposed project.

A map of the project area is presented on page 5 of this application. A KMZ version has been shared with the PSCW Broadband Office.

Mosaic Technologies proposes a comprehensive Fiber-to-the Premises design to provide high speed broadband access to the residents of the Town of Grant. This project represents a one-year endeavor to bring fiber-based access to the severely underserved regions in Southeast Dunn County. Utilizing the scalability of Mosaic's existing nearby infrastructure will bring high speed broadband to over 131 unserved homes and businesses in a cost-effective manner.

- b. If the project area lies within a census block designated as served on the PSC Broadband Map, provide additional documentation to demonstrate the actual broadband service that is available in the proposed project area.

The entire proposed project resides within unserved census blocks as defined by the PSC broadband map as of March 15, 2022. The current provider CenturyLink, claims to offer 10-15Mbps download and 0.5-1Mbps upload at the highest in a portion of the project area. However, there are some census blocks in this project that are not that high or even not reporting any current wireline services. Letters of support from customers express their connectivity frustrations.

- C. An explanation of how the proposed project will increase broadband access.

The proposed project increases broadband access as follows:

1. As illustrated on the Wisconsin Broadband map, viewed on March 15, 2022, current providers claim broadband speeds up to 10-15 Mbps in the project area. There are portions of the project area that do not have any reported wireline service providers. Those areas that do, none of the current maximum speeds provided by residents meets the 25/3 Mbps minimum thresholds that both the FCC and State of Wisconsin use as guidelines for broadband service.
2. Mosaic Technologies will provide Fiber-to-the-Premise (FTTP) high speed broadband and internet access to over 131 homes and businesses whose broadband speeds are currently minimal, at best, integrating these areas within its existing FTTP network. FTTP connections offer more reliable access to internet at speeds that are not possible on existing facilities. This will include the construction of drops to each premise as requested. **This project is scaled for additional expansion in the near future.**
3. Symmetrical broadband at 1 Gig speeds and higher essentially future-proofs deployments for residential and business needs well into the future as new applications emphasize larger data uploads. Mosaic's existing network infrastructure will easily handle these future demands.

4. In partnership with the Town of Grant, along with overwhelming support from Dunn County, Marshfield Clinic and Colfax School District, Mosaic Technologies commits to extending FTTP past 131 residential and business premises in the proposed project area.
5. Based on the letters of support received (Supplemental pages), a growing number of residents and Town leaders prefer to see Mosaic Technologies fill this gap with reliable fiber-based broadband.
6. As evident since COVID started March of 2020, telecommuting has become and remained a non-optional demand in the Town and surrounding area. Whether for work or online education, residents need to have the capability to reliably connect. Letters of support in the supplemental pages represent work from home frustrations. Fiber internet is the solution to the current telecommuting debacles.
7. Provide access to telehealth, video, and imaging applications for diagnostic and health maintenance visits. This option enables early diagnosis and prevents unneeded travel at inopportune or dangerous times. With the pandemic, healthcare organizations are relying on telemedicine more than ever to reduce unnecessary contacts for vulnerable people. Marshfield Clinic Health System, a financial supporter of this project, has completed over 240,000 telehealth encounters since March 2020. According to their CEO, “The COVID-19 pandemic accelerated the move to delivering care via telehealth.” She also states, “Telehealth is not going away.”
8. In its commitment to provide fiber broadband services to all customers, Mosaic has constructed over 1,200 miles of fiber spread among seventeen different projects since the beginning of 2017. This will continue in 2022 as the company directs construction funding toward unserved and underserved customers outside of its cooperative footprint. Mosaic’s scalable FTTP network will not only meet the minimum 25/3 Mbps but will have the immediate capability of providing up to 10,000/10,000 Mbps.

Mosaic plans to offer broadband services at these prices to residential subscribers in the area. Mosaic’s conscious decision to provide symmetrical offerings—that is, the same upward speeds as downward—is an important forward-looking move to facilitate new and anticipate needs for work from home, remote learning, and telemedicine applications:

25 Mbps Downward/10 Mbps Upward	\$59.95 per month
250 Mbps Downward / 250 Mbps Upward	\$79.95 per month
500 Mbps Downward / 500 Mbps Upward	\$94.95 per month
1,000 Mbps Downward / 1,0000 Mbps Upward	\$109.95 per month
10,000 Mbps Downward / 10,0000 Mbps Upward	ICB Pricing is available

d. A statement whether the proposed project is targeting the “last mile,” “middle mile,” or backbone portion of the broadband infrastructure.

This is a last mile project.

e. A description of the broadband service to be provided, including estimated download and upload speeds, whether the speed is based on dedicated or shared bandwidth, and the technology that will be used. This description may be illustrated by a map or schematic diagram, as appropriate.

Mosaic Technologies will provide its broadband service exclusively using a fiber-to-the-premises (FTTP) network. This fiber network is an engineered extension of Mosaic’s existing robust FTTP fiber network and Calix electronics that integrates into Mosaic’s network. This platform is used in the other areas of the cooperative’s regulated service territory as well as communities beyond. The same technologies will be used to provide the highest quality of service to all new customers served by this application.

The locations to be served will interface with Mosaic’s fiber backbone. Multiple Ciena 100 Gbps capable backhaul terminals provides a diversely routed broadband connection and cable TV service. Fiber optic sizes will range from two fiber strands delivered to each house (aka fiber placed to the buildings or “drops”) to two hundred eighty-eight (288) fiber cable on the main line route.

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In many areas this rural, drops and connections to customers are only placed with main line when customers have a desperate need. This project includes the drop installation to all businesses and residential locations as requested during the entire time frame of the project to maximize both cost efficiencies and fiber coverage. This approach is supported by Mosaic matching 16.9% of the project cost.

All broadband electronics used to provide broadband services will be managed to the same standards as in Mosaic's existing fiber enabled service territory.

- f. For middle mile projects:

This is not a Middle Mile Project

- g. A schedule by which the applicant intends to complete the components of the proposed project. The project period is up to 24 months.

If the grant application for this project is approved in the early Summer of 2022, Mosaic will use the following deployment schedule, based on similar projects it has completed:

Fall-Winter 2022	Order and stage equipment and supplies
April-November 2023	Bury fiber distribution and feeder fiber
November 2023-February 2024	Install electronics at subscriber locations
January-Summer 2024	Turn up fiber-based customer services

While this is an aggressive timeline, Mosaic is confident the project can be completed. With excellent relationships with local construction companies as well as proactive supply chain management, this timeline will be met. The company recognizes how important an expedited project is to the residents of the proposed project area.

3.2.3 Itemized Budget (all amounts should be rounded to the nearest dollar)

- a. In addition to the Summary of Project Budget that is included as page 3, applicants should include a price list or quote for any equipment the applicant intends to purchase, including capital expenditures. The application should also indicate whether any facilities involved would be owned, rented, or leased.

Exhibit B – Construction Costs summarizes construction costs for the project. Engineering, some construction and some installation will be performed by Mosaic's long-term third-party contractors under contract and under Mosaic's supervisory control.

All facilities in the network will be owned and managed by Mosaic Technologies.

- b. The application must show that the grant, if awarded, will not subsidize the expenses of a telecommunications provider or the monthly bills of telecommunications customers. For purposes of this grant program, subsidize means a contribution to the operating costs, including profit, of the telecommunications provider.

The grant funds requested in this Application will only be used for authorized purposes.

The applicant will not subsidize its ongoing expenses or the monthly bills of telecommunications customers. It is understood that for purposes of this grant program, subsidy means a contribution to the recurring service charges, operating costs, including profit, of the telecommunications provider.

- c. The application must show that the grant funds requested will be used for the sole purpose of constructing broadband infrastructure in the underserved areas covered by the application. Construction of broadband infrastructure may include any of the following:

Mosaic Technologies will use all grant funds requested for the sole purpose of constructing broadband infrastructure in the unserved area covered by this application. Construction of broadband infrastructure affirmatively will be limited to the following:

- Project planning that takes place during the performance period.
- Obtaining construction permits and Rights of Way.

- c. Construction of facilities, including construction of last mile infrastructure.
- d. Installation and testing of the broadband service.

Mosaic Technologies positively states that all grant funds requested in this application will be used for the sole purpose of constructing broadband infrastructure in the underserved areas described in this application.

3.2.4 Priority factors supporting the application

- a. **Matching funds.** A description of the matching funds the applicant will invest in the proposed project, if any. For each element, indicate the type of match (cash, salary expense, or in-kind contribution). If the application is submitted by a partnership, identify the partner responsible for providing each element of the proposed matching funds. *Note: The requirement for this information is satisfied via inclusion of the completed Funding Statement as page 4 of the application.*

Recognizing the impact this project will have on the proposed project area, Mosaic Technologies pledges a 16.9% match to this project including \$20,000 contributed by Dunn County, \$42,077 in ARPA funds contributed by Grant Township, and \$10,000 of support from The Marshfield Clinic Health System. The total matching contribution is \$272,077.

Matching funds are accounted for on Page 4 of this application.

- b. **Public-private partnerships.** If the public-private partnership is memorialized in a joint venture agreement or other writing, provide a copy of that agreement. If the partnership has not been reduced to a written agreement, provide a short description of the management role, financial commitment, or other contribution to the project for each participating partner.
- In scoring this element, information regarding active engagement of diverse communities in the planning, permitting, or marketing of the project will be given weight as well.

Mosaic Technologies has entered into a Public-Private Partnership with the Town of Grant and Dunn County to complete this project. Please see Exhibit A for the partnership documents.

- c. **Existing broadband service.** A list of the broadband service providers, if any, currently serving the area the applicant proposes to serve. In scoring this element, the following factors will be taken into account:
- The degree to which the proposed project avoids duplicating existing broadband infrastructure.

The supplemental document to this application includes actual customer feedback to substantiate the lack of adequate broadband in the project area.

This project does not duplicate existing broadband infrastructure. No existing provider has a network currently capable of providing 25/3 Mbps broadband internet service in a reliable manner, nor is Mosaic aware of any infrastructure scheduled to become operational in the next year.

- The application of a wireless broadband service provider proposing significant overlap with existing broadband service in addition to service to an unserved area will not be given priority consideration.

Mosaic Technologies is not aware of any wireless infrastructure scheduled to become operational in the next year.

- Provide a list of all landline broadband service providers (DSL, cable, or fiber to the home) and fixed wireless broadband service providers that overlap the footprint of the proposed broadband project.

The Wisconsin Broadband Map, updated March 15, 2022, shows the entire project area as eligible. The subscribers in this area are currently served by CenturyLink as their incumbent wireline provider with no presence of competitive carriers.

T-Mobile is listed on the Wisconsin PSC Broadband map as a fixed wireless provider offering service well below the 25/3 Mbps served definition.

- If known, provide an estimate of the customers within the proposed footprint that are served by competing landline and fixed wireless broadband service providers, and the download/upload speeds offered by those competing service providers.

CenturyLink is listed as the incumbent telecom company for this area. According to FCC data, CenturyLink is using ADSL technology for the proposed project area and reporting speeds of 10-15Mbps download in some areas of Grant Township. There are census blocks within the Town of Grant that have no wireline facilities-based provider reporting services.

- Provide a list of mobile wireless broadband service providers that overlap the footprint of the proposed project.

The Wisconsin Broadband Map lists AT&T Mobility and T-Mobile as both claiming in the application area, but reliable and reasonably priced internet connectivity is debatable. Other providers may advertise coverage, but there are no known subscribers to other providers' cellular services in the area.

- If known, provide an estimate of the customers within the proposed footprint that are served by competing mobile wireless broadband service providers, and the download/upload speeds offered by those competing service providers. (The presence of existing mobile wireless providers does not contribute to or affect the evaluation of existing broadband service in the project area for purposes of priority consideration but provides a more complete picture of the broadband options available to residents.)

Mosaic Technologies is not aware of any significant customer counts served by competing mobile wireless providers in the proposed project area.

- d. **Project impact.** A description of the geographic area and the population, both in terms of absolute numbers and likely users, which will be served by the proposed project. Indicate the number of anticipated residential and business customers in the project area, if known. Explain the speed and quality of internet service that will be available. Include information about the range of packages available for purchase. Provide details on any low-income access programs and steps the project will take to support adoption.

The geographic area served by this project covers most of the Town of Grant, 22.5 square miles of Dunn County, reaching 131 residential and business customers clamoring for broadband that will bridge the digital divide and offer opportunities to thrive, not just survive. Due to the seasonal nature of some residents, the population fluctuates to a great degree, but the relocation of current seasonal residents is inevitable with reliable broadband.

Businesses, in general, have struggled to stay open during COVID due to stay at home orders and shutdowns. However, even in "normal" times, area businesses struggle to meet the needs of potential customers due to unreliable broadband. Local residents unequivocally state that slow speed has resulted in the loss of personal and professional opportunities. Limited bandwidth will not allow remote learning, access to telemedicine, updates to agricultural databases or job application sites. This results in significant lost revenue to both businesses and a potential loss of jobs.

Evidenced by letters of support in the Supplemental Support document, residents are missing opportunities due to poor broadband capabilities.

From the response received from government officials, residents, and businesses along with the demonstrated lack of adequate broadband, Mosaic projects subscriber participation at close to 65% for customers within the first six months. Based on historical trends and demographics of the area, residential take rate is projected at around 75% or 100 homes within the first twelve months.

Led by Mosaic's Fiber to the Premise (FTTP) deployment, the area will benefit through:

- Initial broadband speeds up to 10 Gbps symmetrical to all current and future residences and businesses to receive voice services, data connectivity and video. These bandwidth services will be available to all locations within the project area. The most economical package for residential service will be \$59.95. Section 3.2.2.c. displays all offered packages.
- Government agencies and emergency services rely on broadband as part of providing its services. Buried fiber facilities offer the impeccable reliability especially during crisis situations and natural disasters when other facilities may be destroyed. Residents will have access to 24-hour telehealth services. Marshfield Clinic Health System prioritizes this enough to contribute not only a letter of support but also financial support to the project. (Supplemental Support)

- The Colfax School District has a one-to-one educational school-to-home program. With the COVID pandemic restricting in person instruction, reliable broadband connections are essential. In his letter of support, Schools Superintendent, William Yingst, noted that they “see a definite disparity in broadband service between urban and rural children, with the rural children being left behind”. With a much lower per home income rate than the national average, Colfax students are already at a distinct disadvantage. Poor broadband only widens that divide. With COVID continuing to threaten the traditional in-person classroom, it is critical that students have the ability to access resources from their homes. With fiber broadband, these students would have access not only to their current curriculum but also to online vocational and college level courses from limitless colleges and universities including the extensive University of Wisconsin online resources. Further, it is not only the traditional student, but working adults looking to advance their education and careers can take college courses online. With no brick and mortar post-secondary institutions in this area, the travel commitment becomes a large barrier to education for working adults. Fiber broadband will eliminate those barriers to the education these residents’ desire.
- Residents in the project area have a minimum 15-mile drive to the nearest hospital or clinic. With fiber connectivity, remote diagnostic medicine and health maintenance services, from pediatric to geriatric purposes, will be possible with simple laptop cameras and attached monitoring devices that are becoming commonly available. This brings the advanced care to the residents and eliminates unnecessary travel. The ongoing pandemic exposes the limited broadband as healthcare providers are encouraging patients not needing in-person care to remain at home to stem the transmission of COVID. Marshfield Clinic Health System demonstrates its commitment through financial support of this broadband project. They have experienced over 240,000 telehealth connections system wide since 2020 alone. Dr. Turney understands that “telehealth is not going away.”
- Telecommuting: Like telehealth, telecommuting is becoming a norm. Letters of support reference either currently working from home or having a desire to do so, however, lack of reliable broadband makes telecommuting impossible. As referenced by the accompanying resolution, the Dunn County Board of Supervisors recognize that economic growth and stability of the region will hinge on telecommuting opportunities. This is completely dependent on upgrading inadequate broadband infrastructure through construction of fiber optic facilities.

e. **Scalability.** A description of how the proposed project could expand or improve the broadband service it delivers, while maintaining the quality of its broadband service. This description should include specific projected increases in the following parameters that are known at the time of the application:

- The number of users.
- The number of network nodes.
- The number of services provided.
- The geographic area served by the project.
- This description may also include a discussion of possible growth potential that is outside the commitment the applicant is making as part of its application.

This project is an economical extension of Mosaic’s current fiber network as the project area is immediately south and east of current fiber facilities and central office infrastructure. Approximately two miles of transport fiber will be constructed to reach the proposed project area. In 2021, Mosaic Technologies upgraded its transport network to accommodate future geographic expansion as well as the influx of new subscribers. With the fiber infrastructure in place, any future broadband demands on the network will be managed by a simple upgrade of electronics which is much less costly than placing fiber.

Based on recently completed fiber projects, Mosaic projects adding over a hundred residential and home-business customers within six months of project completion. Beyond symmetrical internet speeds, all customers will have access to a full range of voice services offered over a VoIP protocol along with video entertainment options delivered on both an IP platform as well as an over-the-top (OTT) option.

At the completion of this project, Mosaic will have run 31.5 miles of fiber in the project area. As Mosaic continues to explore opportunities to fill in its network in underserved areas, this would be a potential growth area

f. **Economic development.** A description of how the proposed project will promote job growth or retention, expand the property tax base, or improve the overall economic vitality of the municipality or region. This description may be supplemented with a letter from one or more persons discussing the potential economic impact the project could have for that individual or business. In scoring this element, the following factors will be taken into account:

- A discussion of potential economic impact the project could have for an individual business located in the project area.

Agriculture and small business are the primary employment areas in the Town. Mosaic's addition of fiber-based broadband services will allow residents to engage in precision farming, work-at-home or evening access to work and educational opportunities that are not available today. These support job growth and property values hence the Town's flat tax base. Residents say that slow or no internet availability limits their prospects compare with other towns that have been successful in securing FTTP internet. Fiber-based broadband will be an economic boon for the Town and surrounding residents.

- An explanation of how an improved download and upload transmission speed could better support a specific business in the project area.

Reliable broadband to the Town will increase farm and small business efficiencies and for the first time make them competitive in an expanding e-commerce world around them.

- An explanation of the likely impact improved broadband service could have on residential property values, supported by local sales data if available.

Studies by the Fiber Broadband Association have shown that home values increase by an average of 3.1% for homes with fiber-based broadband. With fiber availability, it is anticipated that the demand for the available building sites will increase causing growth in property values and the tax base. Property values vary tremendously in the project area. The average property value in Grant Township is \$145,100 which equates to an average increased value of \$4,500 or more.

Across Mosaic's serving areas, the ability to sell homes today has become the presence of fast and reliable broadband service. Across the state, real estate agents state that prospective home buyers rule out properties that do not have current access to high-speed broadband. Making this available to Town residents will surely boost property values and therefore local employment.

- A demonstration of how improved broadband service to a residential portion of the project could benefit a telecommuting population.

Letters of support state the need to telecommute. These people would benefit immediately from improved broadband. Recent surveys suggest 25% of residents currently telecommute, have the option or for personal reasons need to. Extrapolating that to the 131 residential locations in this application equates to 33 potential telecommuters. Arguably, that number could be higher with improved broadband access. These people benefit immediately from improved broadband.

- A demonstration of how the speeds and service being offered by the project fits with current and future economic needs of the community and local businesses.

The positive benefits to the economy from this project translate directly to higher real estate values, more home construction and remodeling, and an expanding tax base which benefits all residents in the area. Gigabit capable internet connects rural areas to the world and presents endless opportunities for those searching for a more rural lifestyle. The Dunn County Board of Supervisors states that access to high-speed internet has become essential for businesses and residents of such activities as work, health care, education, tourism, business, and economic development. The broadband capabilities afforded the proposed project area will enhance both current and future opportunities for this region.

- g. Effect upon broadband service to adjacent areas.** A description of whether the proposed project will or will not impair the ability of a broadband service provider or competing broadband service provider to extend broadband service to areas adjacent to the proposed project area.

Mosaic's proposed project will not impair the ability of any broadband service provider to extend service to areas adjacent to the proposed project area. On the contrary, the availability of FTTP will serve as a catalyst for demand in the other underserved areas where the incumbent, or others, could overbuild with fiber.

3.2.5 Other information supporting the application

- a.** A description of applicant's history or experience constructing broadband communications facilities in the state and elsewhere.

- If applicable, an applicant must comment upon the status of all prior broadband expansion grant projects, including the type of broadband technology used, the facility route actually built or installed, the number of residential and business customers actually connected, and other relevant details of the prior project(s).

Mosaic Technologies has defined itself as a leading technology provider and is seeking to further expand its best-in-class fiber services to underserved residential and business customers. Mosaic's fiber product line is a permanent solution to bridging the digital divide. The below projects demonstrate our commitment to unserved and underserved residents in our expanding service territory.

2017: Mosaic completed a project in partnership with Indianhead Holsteins immediately North and West of the City of Barron. This project brought FTTP to thirteen unserved farms including a large family business that included a farming division, a renewable wood products division, and a live entertainment division which coordinates events for military troops deployed around the world. This was partially funded by a broadband expansion grant.

2019: Mosaic completed a FTTP project to nineteen homes North and West of the City of Rice Lake. These residences, located in an underserved area of a large incumbent carrier, now have access to 1Gbps symmetrical service along with voice and video entertainment services. This project was also awarded a broadband expansion grant.

2020: Phase 2 of the 2017 project extended five miles of fiber to reach eighteen residences along Highway T outside of the City of Barron. Those receiving fiber broadband included several residents who work from home in "on-call" positions including one in health services and the other an IT director for a local school district. Mosaic also received several positive comments related to providing fiber at such a critical time as COVID. This project was partially funded by a broadband expansion grant.

2020: Mosaic bridged the digital divide for thirty-seven customers, including eight businesses. These customers are located on a four-mile stretch of County Highway SS North of Rice Lake. While close to city amenities, they had inadequate services from a large incumbent carrier. Now they have access to fiber-based services with up to 1Gbps speeds. Wisconsin PSC awarded a broadband grant for this project.

2020: Mosaic, with assistance from CARES Act funding through the Wisconsin PSC, constructed fiber past 188 homes along the Western shores of both Upper and Lower Turtle Lakes. This project was originally submitted for broadband grant consideration as part of the 2020 grant cycle and was part of a larger fiber project that included the Village of Turtle Lake. This project was not funded in that cycle.

2021: In March of 2021 Mosaic was awarded three PSC broadband expansion grants; Town of Cedar Lake, Sand Creek, and Prairie Farm. Mosaic constructed fiber to approximately 1,215 homes and businesses around Red Cedar Lake (Town of Cedar Lake) in northeast Barron County and the Village of Birchwood in southeast Washburn County. All fiber construction was completed by the first quarter of 2022 for the Red Cedar project and all customers now have access to fiber services. Final grant documents were submitted in the first quarter of 2022.

Additionally, Mosaic constructed fiber past 1,453 homes and businesses in the Towns of Sand Creek and Otter Creek and the Towns of Prairie Farm and New Haven in southern Barron County and northern Dunn County. This project was also completed in late 2021. Final inspections are taking place and closeout is expected to be completed by the second quarter of 2022.

These three projects provide robust and reliable best-in-class fiber services to these communities. The successful completion of these projects demonstrates Mosaic's capability in expanding their fiber network to the residents and businesses located in their surrounding communities.

- An applicant must also comment on broadband construction projects undertaken in prior years that were not funded in part by the Broadband Expansion Grant program.

Starting in 2017, Mosaic Technologies, embarked on a multiyear initiative to overbuild fiber in the areas of its six-exchange incumbent territory being served with copper. Since inception, the cooperative has plowed over 1,100 miles of fiber. As of today, the entire cooperative service areas is 100% FTTH. This project was funded, in part, through loans from the Rural Utilities Service (RUS), a division of the United States Department of Agriculture.

Over the past four years, Mosaic has self-funded multiple smaller projects outside its incumbent territory. In the cities of Barron, Chetek, and Rice Lake, Mosaic enhanced its rich copper network by vectoring its VDSL platform, bringing speeds up to 150/25 Mbps to residents in those areas. While this copper strategy serves as a technology improvement, the long-term solution is fiber. Starting in 2021, Mosaic has invested in fiber where current copper facilities exist in its competitive footprint to future proof its network.

Additional Mosaic Technologies self-funded fiber projects include:

- Turtle Lake – As mentioned previously Mosaic submitted a 2020 grant request for Turtle Lake. While this grant was not funded, Mosaic remained committed to bringing fiber to these underserved residents and businesses. During the spring and summer of 2020, fiber construction passed over 300 homes in the Village.
- Rice Lake – Starting in 2021, Mosaic began a multi-year initiative to replace copper facilities with fiber services to approximately 3,723 residents and businesses. To date we have completed FTTP to 473 locations.
- Chetek – Also starting in 2021, Mosaic began a 2-year initiative to replace copper facilities and construct new greenfield. To date we have successfully completed the replacement of all copper with fiber to 1,200 locations and have constructed greenfield fiber service to 350 new locations. This project is schedule to be completed in May of 2022.

All of these projects represent Mosaic’s ongoing commitment to bring best-in-class fiber services to rural Northwest Wisconsin. Exhibit D provides a history of Chibardun Telephone Cooperative, Inc. / CTC Telcom, Inc. DBA Mosaic Technologies.

b. A description of how the proposed project will or will not duplicate existing broadband infrastructure.

Mosaic is not duplicating any likely expansion by CenturyLink in the proposed project area. Letters of support received by Mosaic regularly state that broadband speeds are insufficient for customer needs. Cellular internet services are uneconomical and often unavailable in homes. No incumbent provider infrastructure improvements are currently promised nor anticipated.

c. A description of an applicant’s financial ability to undertake the proposed broadband construction project. This may include information such as the number of years the company has been in operation, documentation of successful completion of similar infrastructure projects, evidence that sufficient funds are available to cover project expenditure and match, customer turn-over rates, and credit rating.

Mosaic invests over \$3,000,000 each year in capital improvement projects through self-funding from operating income and EBITDA. The required time, resources, and provisional matching funds for this project have been factored into Mosaic’s 2022-2024 capital spending plan.

Mosaic provides a record of its historical and current projects in Exhibit C below, reviewing its long and successful ability to manage and operate large construction projects.

Each year, Mosaic Technologies files its PSCW Annual Questionnaire fully describing regulated and non-regulated revenues.

- d. For middle mile projects, state the terms under which the applicant will make its middle mile fiber resource available to last mile providers. Without disclosing project-specific or customer-specific negotiated rates for service or access, state whether access to the middle mile fiber resource will be offered to last mile providers at a rate that is reasonable and common to the industry. Describe any restrictions or limits that may limit the availability or interconnection with the middle mile route.

This is not a middle mile project.

- e. For middle mile routes, state the amount of fiber capacity, by number of fiber strands in a cable, that the applicant has been reserved for public use. Describe any commitment or tentative discussion indicating the local government or State agency that might use those fiber strands, and for what purpose. Describe any restrictions or limits that may limit the public use (e.g., a possible use conflicts with an existing program covering the same subject matter).

This is not a middle mile project.

- f. A description of how the proposed project will affect the ability of individuals to access health care service from home, including any impact upon the costs of those services.
- Specific information from a hospital or clinic in the project area that currently uses or intends to use home-based telemedicine equipment to enhance access health care service would best illustrate this point.

The rising cost of healthcare, downward pressure on reimbursement to providers, and a lack of physician availability in rural areas, has caused a significant shift in the delivery of healthcare to rural residents. No longer is there a hospital or clinic in every town. Health systems have had to make the difficult choice to close the local facility in favor of larger regional health facilities. This creates a significant divide in critical healthcare access for residents in rural areas. With the advent of telehealth, the physician can return to making “house calls” by providing remote diagnostic and health maintenance services to a wide spectrum of patients. COVID-19 has “accelerated the move to delivering care via telehealth” according to Susan Turney, CEO of Marshfield Clinic Health System (MCHS). MCHS has seen its telehealth encounters explode to over 240,000 since March of 2020, when measurement began in earnest.

Telehealth is possible with an affordable computer with camera, attached monitoring devices, AND high-speed broadband. Mosaic’s deployment of fiber infrastructure to the Town of Grant will provide the virtual highway to connect patients with their doctors. The time and cost of traveling to a regional provider will no longer be a limiting factor for those seeking advanced care. In recognition of the needed partnership, The Marshfield Clinic is generously contributing \$10,000 toward this project.

Even cellular 911 service will function dependably from the home as FTTP broadband allows reliable WIFI services to modern cell phones.

g. A description of how the proposed project will affect the ability of students to access educational opportunities from home.

- Specific information on the likely number of students that will benefit from improved access to educational opportunities from home would be useful.
- Specific information regarding educational programs that are currently available for students in the project area would be useful.

Whether it be the primary and secondary students in the Colfax School District or adults pursuing degrees in higher education, having access to the digital world for class resources is mandatory. In Colfax, students receive Chromebooks for online education which are practically useless without reliable broadband at home. As the District noted, “the need for broadband is paramount, not only for our children, but the overall health of the district.” With fiber broadband, all those seeking education would have access to online vocational and college level courses from limitless colleges and universities including the extensive University of Wisconsin online system. In this economically challenged area where many students live in poverty, fiber broadband can eliminate barriers to the educational resources students need to succeed.

h. A description of actions taken by a city, village, town, or county in support of the grant application that have not been discussed in the context of a public-private partnership above, including but not limited to:

- The contribution of funds, easements or permissions to use publicly owned real estate, construction materials, or other items of value to the grant project.
- The contribution of in-kind assistance to the grant project in the form of waived fees and expenses for obtaining use permits and permissions.

The Town of Grant has a formalized Public Private Partnership with Mosaic Technologies and will support the project through waived fees and assistance with easements and utility right of ways.

- The contribution of other items of benefit to the grant project, such as public outreach and education, vehicles, water, etc.

The Town of Grant will assist in the promotion, outreach, and education for residents of the project area. Both associations have already demonstrated enthusiastic support throughout the grant application process.

- Certification as a Broadband Forward! Community or Telecommuter Forward! Community.

Dunn County is a staunch supporters of technology infrastructure improvements in their jurisdictions. As such, they are Telecommuter Forward! and Broadband Forward! certified.

i. Letters and messages in support of the application submitted by prospective customers, local government officials, and other interested persons.

While we recognize that only the first ten pages of the appended document will be reviewed, we have included all letters to illustrate the diverse population of interested parties. These include Marshfield Clinic, Wisconsin State legislators, the School District of Colfax, Dunn Energy Cooperative, White Construction, and the Wisconsin State Telecommunication Association

(WSTA). There has also been an overwhelming response from residents and businesses in the proposed project area and those documents are attached as Exhibit D.

- j. Any other equitable factor that the applicant desires to discuss, including one or more of the factors in Wis. Stat. § 196.03(6) that the applicant believes its project would advance.

Mosaic Technologies has long been a respected community partner in its serving area. We embody the ideals of hard-working Northern Wisconsin residents. This includes positively impacting the quality of life for our community members and promoting initiatives that advance the area and its residents. Most notably is Mosaic's commitment to expanding fiber broadband throughout Northwestern Wisconsin. That ties directly to our business operations mission. Beyond that, Mosaic has been a community partner by offering its facilities, staff, and assets to support the public good. Examples include:

1. Free use of its meeting facilities by many area schools, local non-profit and government agencies providing 1 Gbps internet, video technology, and technical support. Specifically, Red Cross Blood Drives, Barron County Office on Aging seminars, student learning, and OSHA safety training workshops.
2. Disaster recovery headquarters. When a natural disaster hit residents in Mosaic's territory, we opened our building to the displaced residents, collected food, clothing, and household items for those residents and provided space for Barron County Emergency management to run its central operations for nine days.
3. Support of local events. When lack of support for Cameron's annual community festival threatened to cancel the events, Mosaic employees organized events, coordinated volunteers, and operated many activities to keep the festival alive and promote civic engagement.

Mosaic's mission is to provide advanced technology solutions for an affordable price. With Dunn County being an economically challenged area in the state, we are sensitive to the balance of charging enough to keep the company profitable while also respecting the limited resources of our customers. We understand the importance of universal service for the rural communities we serve as we are a beneficiary of universal support recovery in our regulated territory. Section 3.2.5.a of this application enumerates several examples of how Mosaic invests heavily into the technology infrastructure to promote economic development and provide services to diverse populations in our geographic serving area. Beyond that, we provide the personal element not readily available in more urban settings.

In discussing this element, the following information may be useful:

- Technical support and training materials that the applicant intends to provide.
- Information that the applicant intends to use to promote better broadband adoption and use.
- A description of a program or outreach to provide assistance to individuals of low income.

Mosaic Technologies offers 24/7 customer support through our Network Operations Center and contracted after hours support center. We are generous with our time and attention to making sure our customers are prepared when using our services.

Working through schools and community organizations, Mosaic promotes the use of broadband by educating community members on the advantages as well as the pitfalls of technology. Mosaic was the first small telco to receive Level 2 certification from the cybersecurity experts at Dynetics, Inc. and internally we have adopted stringent protocols on data security and prevention of cyber hacking and offer that as a service to our customers.

During the COVID pandemic, Mosaic created free, public use WIFI hotspots at each of its office locations in Barron, Cameron, Chetek, and Rice Lake to provide access to local residents who lost access when other public sources such as schools and libraries closed. We also partnered with the local schools to provide free internet to low-income students with no broadband access. Mosaic acts as a partner to our community, not just the big internet pipe to the world.

Exhibits

Exhibit A – Public Private Partnerships and Telecommuter Forward Ordinances

Exhibit B – Construction Costs

Exhibit C – History of Chibardun/CTC dba Mosaic Technologies

Exhibit D– Letters in Support of this Application

DUNN COUNTY, WISCONSIN
RESOLUTION NO. 9

In Authorizing Grants from ARPA Funds for Qualifying Broadband Projects

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Dunn County Board of Supervisors hereby designates an amount not to exceed \$100,000 of funding received through the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 to be used for the expansion of rural broadband service within Dunn County for qualifying and approved grant applications received in the 2022 State of Wisconsin grant application cycle; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED Dunn County will provide funds it approves to support rural broadband projects only for projects that are awarded broadband grants by the State of Wisconsin, and if such grants are not approved then these funds will not be expended; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Community Resources and Tourism Committee is directed and authorized to develop procedures for grant application review and grant disbursement, and review applications to ensure they comply with the requirements for use of ARPA funds for broadband projects; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that appropriate County staff shall take any and all actions necessary to carry out the directives in this Resolution.

Offered this 16th day of February, 2022, at Menomonie, Wisconsin.

Adopted on: February 16th, 2022

ATTEST:


Andrew Mercil, County Clerk

OFFERED BY THE COMMUNITY RESOURCES
AND TOURISM COMMITTEE:


James Anderson, Chair

Approved as to Form and Execution:


Nicholas P. Lange, Corporation Counsel

Budget Impact: Adoption of this Resolution will result in expenditure of an amount not to exceed \$100,000 in ARPA funds if all grant applications are awarded funds from Dunn County.

Background Information:

Access to high-speed internet has become essential for businesses and residents of Dunn County for such activities as work, health care, education, tourism, business, and economic development. The Community Resources and Tourism Committee and the Planning Resource and Development Committee have been exploring ways to expand broadband services to the residents in rural areas of Dunn County that are not currently served by broadband services.

Dunn County is scheduled to receive funds from the federal government under the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 ("ARPA"). Among other things, one of the permitted uses of ARPA funds is investment into broadband infrastructure, that would help to expand broadband services to the rural areas of Dunn County. In addition, local units of government are also receiving ARPA

funds which they can use for infrastructure purposes including the expansion of broadband in their jurisdictions, and they are able to apply for specific grants from the state government to be used for the expansion of broadband service.

The COVID-19 pandemic has revealed a lack of reliable broadband service in many parts of Dunn County as people in those areas were not able to connect to work, school or healthcare services through the internet. Several local internet service providers (ISP's) are intending to submit requests to the state PSC broadband grant program for assistance in funding local broadband expansion projects, and the deadline for applications in the 2022 grant cycle is March 17, 2022. The Towns in Dunn County that will be served by the proposed projects are all committing a share of their ARPA funds toward the local match in support of these grant applications.

The commitment of even a modest amount of ARPA funds by Dunn County for these applications will demonstrate broader community support and raise the competitive score of the application evaluations.

The county may consider the merits of additional ARPA allocations in the future as opportunities are presented. However, this specific opportunity will be lost if funds are not committed by the March 17, 2022, deadline.

**GRANT TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS RESOLUTION TO APPROVE
BROADBAND EXPANSION PROPOSAL FROM MOSAIC TECHNOLOGIES**

WHEREAS, Town of Grant (the "Township") strives in expansion of fiber optic broadband infrastructure and service available to its residents;

WHEREAS, Mosaic Technologies ("Mosaic") is a provider of broadband services to the area in and around the Township;

WHEREAS, Mosaic presented a proposal for expansion of broadband services in Town of Grant area (the "Mosaic Proposal") at a Town of Grant meeting on 2/14/22. The Mosaic Proposal shall be part of a Wisconsin Public Service Commission (PSC) Broadband Expansion Grant submitted on or before the grant cycle ending March 17, 2022.

WHEREAS, the Mosaic Proposal sets forth a Township contribution of \$42,676.76 in American Rescue Plan Act ("ARPA") funds, and such contribution assumes additional funds will be provided by, a Mosaic contribution, and grant award funds;

WHEREAS, pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 65.90(5)(a), the Town of Grant Board ("Board") approved the Township contribution of \$42,676.76 set forth in the Mosaic Proposal by a 2/3 member vote. Execution of the Mosaic Proposal will be dependent upon successful award of the respective PSC Broadband Expansion Grant submitted on or before March 17, 2022 and awarded in calendar year 2022.

WHEREAS, the Township Board reviewed and discussed the contents of this Resolution at its meeting on 2/14/22, and the Board determined that it is in the best interest of the Township to commit Township funds in the amount of \$42,676.76 in ARPA funds and approve the Mosaic Proposal.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Township Board determines the following:

1. Recitals. The Recitals set forth above are true and correct, and are hereby incorporated into this Resolution.
2. Approval of Mosaic Proposal; Conditions. The Township Board hereby approves the Mosaic Proposal and commits \$42,676.76 in ARPA funds to the broadband expansion project described in the Mosaic Proposal with the following conditions:
 - a. Each funding contribution set forth in Mosaic Proposal must be secured to the satisfaction of the Township, including the contribution of state grant(s), and the contribution of funds from Mosaic. Contributions from entities other than the Township may exceed the amounts set forth in the Mosaic Proposal.
 - b. All other necessary governmental approvals for the broadband expansion project set forth in the Mosaic Proposal are secured, including but not limited to the State of Wisconsin Public Service Commission.
In the event any conditions are not met to the Township's satisfaction, the Township shall have no obligation to contribute or otherwise spend Township funds for the

broadband expansion project described in the Mosaic Proposal.
3. Health, Welfare and Safety. The Town's approval of this Resolution and the Mosaic Proposal is beneficial to the health, welfare and safety of the Township's residents, taxpayers and visitors.

The content of this Resolution was reviewed and discussed by this Town of Grant meeting on 2-14-22, and voted to recommend that the Town of Grant Board of Supervisors to approve.

Mark Dietsche
(Sign)

Mark Dietsche, Chairman
(Print)

Grant Township Representative

Exhibit B

Construction Costs

FY22 Broadband Expansion Grant Application Budget & Income Summary



Please complete this form using Microsoft Excel. A PDF copy must be attached to your application as page four. In addition, this form must also be uploaded to ERF in Excel format.

Grant Summary

Grant Applicant:	Project:
CTC Telcom, Inc. dba Mosaic Technologies	Town of Grant

Budget

Line:	Description / Category:	Grant Funds:	Match:	Total:
1	Contractual, Consultant Fees	\$ 1,086,898.00	\$ 272,077.00	\$ 1,358,975.00
2	Equipment	\$ 72,751.00	\$ -	\$ 72,751.00
3	Supplies			\$ -
4	Labor (Salary, Fringe)	\$ 176,283.00	\$ -	\$ 176,283.00
5	Permitting, Licensing Fees			\$ -
6	Travel			\$ -
7	Other			\$ -
Total:		\$ 1,335,932.00	\$ 272,077.00	\$ 1,608,009.00
				16.9% match requested

Pledged Contributions

#:	Entity:	Entity Type:	Pledge Type:	Pledge:
1	Mosaic Technologies	Applicant	Cash	\$ 200,000.00
2	Town of Grant	Partner	Cash	\$ 42,077.00
3	Marshfield Clinic	Other	Cash	\$ 10,000.00
4	Dunn County	Partner	Cash	\$ 20,000.00
5				
6				
7				
8				
9				
10				
Total:				\$ 272,077.00

Construction =	\$ 1,254,175
Electronics =	\$ 72,751
Drop construction =	\$ 104,800
Pre-construction coordination and drops =	\$ 16,375
Splicing =	\$ 47,032
Engineering =	\$ 25,084
Inspection, project management, records =	\$ 87,793
TOTAL =	\$ 1,608,009
<u>Electronics Breakdown purchased by Mosaic</u>	
Clearfield Field Splitter Cabinets =	\$ 15,000
Calix E7 series XGS-PON electronic terminals =	\$ 25,000
ONTs/CPE devices =	\$ 32,751
	\$ 72,751

Exhibit C

History of Chibardun Telephone Cooperative/CTC Telcom DBA Mosaic Technologies

Chibardun Telephone Cooperative formed as a cooperative in 1957. Prior to that, individual communities within the current incumbent footprint had their own municipal telephone operation. With changing technology and need for investment, community leaders decided to join forces to form one larger cooperative. The name Chibardun came from the three counties where the founders were located: Chippewa, Barron, and Dunn Counties (CHI-BAR-DUN).

Chibardun has always been considered a leader and key business in Barron County. We are very active in the communities we serve by participating in local events, supporting schools, providing scholarships to students, and donating money and in-kind contributions to local civic groups.

Chibardun is a premier provider of high-speed internet, video, and voice services, but also offers professional managed IT solutions, commercial telephone systems, and wiring installation services to businesses in Northwest Wisconsin.

Chibardun has always been on the leading edge of business ventures and service offerings. Some notable accomplishments include:

The introduction of both paging services and cable television in the mid-1980s, and the introduction of broadband internet in the mid-1990s.

Late 1990s: Chibardun formed a competitive company, CTC Telcom, Inc., and invested into the nearby communities of Barron, Chetek, and Rice Lake.

Early 2000s: Fixed mobile wireless Internet service through a 700Mhz licensed spectrum investment was offered.

2009: To more accurately reflect the broad spectrum of services that were offered, Chibardun adopted the Doing Business As (DBA) name of Mosaic Telecom. Branded as Mosaic Mobile, the company operated its own cellular network/cell phone service. Recognizing the economic challenges of providing the latest technology in an ever-changing cellular industry, Mosaic exited all wireless operations in early 2016.

2016: Management made the pledge to fully fiber the incumbent territories still using copper facilities as well as develop a long-range plan of expanding our fiber footprint in Northwest Wisconsin. With financial support from the Rural Utilities Service (RUS), a division of the United States Department of Agriculture, Chibardun began expanding its fiber facilities in early 2017. To date, Chibardun's entire incumbent territory is 100% FTTH. In recognition of its efforts, Chibardun was recognized by the National Telecommunications Cooperative Association (NTCA) with the Smart Rural Community award for its advancement of technology in its serving area.

2017- Present: Beyond the pledge to fully fiber the incumbent territories, Mosaic has dedicated significant resources to logical expansion of its fiber footprint to include competitive areas where the incumbent carrier has failed to improve its infrastructure. Mosaic has completed nine grant aided projects, with five in progress, along with self-funding multiple other projects to improve the fiber infrastructure to our region.

2020: Mosaic Telecom rebranded to Mosaic Technologies to reflect the vision of the company and its product offerings more accurately. Mosaic continues to grow and look for opportunities to bring broadband to rural, underserved areas. Being a small company, we understand the need to act as good stewards of our resources to maximize the positive impact to our communities.

2021: In March of 2021 Mosaic was awarded three PSC broadband expansion grants; Town of Cedar Lake, Sand Creek, and Prairie Farm. Mosaic constructed fiber to approximately 1,215 homes and businesses around Red Cedar Lake (Town of Cedar Lake) in northeast Barron County and the Village of Birchwood in southeast Washburn County. All fiber construction was completed by the first quarter of 2022 for the Red Cedar project and all customers now have access to fiber services. Final grant documents were submitted in the first quarter of 2022.

Additionally, Mosaic constructed fiber past 1,453 homes and businesses in the Towns of Sand Creek and Otter Creek and the Towns of Prairie Farm and New Haven in southern Barron County and northern Dunn County. This project was also completed in late 2021. Final inspections are taking place and closeout is expected to be completed by the second quarter of 2022.

These three projects provide robust and reliable best-in-class fiber services to these communities. The successful completion of these projects demonstrates Mosaic's capability in expanding their fiber network to the residents and businesses located in their surrounding communities.

Starting in 2017, Mosaic Technologies, embarked on a multiyear initiative to overbuild fiber in the areas of its six-exchange incumbent territory being served with copper. Since inception, the cooperative has plowed over 1,100 miles of fiber. As of today, the entire cooperative service areas is 100% FTTH. This project was funded, in part, through loans from the Rural Utilities Service (RUS), a division of the United States Department of Agriculture.

Over the past four years, Mosaic has self-funded multiple smaller projects outside its incumbent territory. In the Cities of Barron, Chetek, and Rice Lake, Mosaic enhanced its rich copper network by vectoring its VDSL platform, bringing speeds up to 150/25 Mbps to residents in those areas. While this copper strategy serves as a technology improvement, the long-term solution is fiber. Starting in 2021, Mosaic has invested in fiber where current copper facilities exist in its competitive footprint to future proof its network.

Additional Mosaic Technologies self-funded fiber projects include:

- Turtle Lake – As mentioned previously Mosaic submitted a 2020 grant request for Turtle Lake. While this grant was not funded, Mosaic remained committed to bringing fiber to these underserved residents and businesses. During the spring and summer of 2020, fiber construction passed over 300 homes in the Village.
- Rice Lake – Starting in 2021, Mosaic began a multi-year initiative to replace copper facilities with fiber services to approximately 3,723 residents and businesses. To date we have completed FTTP to 473 locations.
- Chetek – Also starting in 2021, Mosaic began a 2-year initiative to replace copper facilities and construct new greenfield. To date we have successfully completed the replacement of all copper with fiber to 1,200 locations and have constructed greenfield fiber service to 350 new locations. This project is schedule to be completed in May of 2022.

All of these projects represent Mosaic's ongoing commitment to bring best-in-class fiber services to rural Northwest Wisconsin.

Exhibit D
Sampling of Letters Received in Support of the Grant Township FTTP Application

9624/92

2/17/22

PRESTON;

ENCLOSED IS SOME OF THE THINGS WE TALKED ABOUT

1. OUR MINUTES AT THE LAST TOWN BOARD MINUTES ADDRESSING THE ARPA FUNDS AND THE DECISION TO GO WITH MOSAIC.
2. LETTERS OF SUPPORT FROM THE COLFAX SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION AND DUNN ENERGY.
3. FOUR LETTERS FROM OUR TOWN RESIDENTS EXPRESSING SOME CONCERNS FOR OUR PRESENT INTERNET. SEVERAL OTHER FOLKS HAVE INDICATED THEY WOULD WRITE SIMILAR LETTERS BUT HAVE NOT GIVEN THEM TO ME YET. IT SEEMS THE MORE I ASKED THEM ABOUT THEIR EXPERIENCE THE MORE THEY ARE DISSATISFIED WITH OUR PRESENT SERVICE.
4. A LETTER FROM MARSHFIELD CLINIC INDICATING THEIR LETTER OF SUPPORT. A 10,000.00 CONTRIBUTION IF OUR APPLICATION IS APPROVED BY THE STATE OF WISCONSIN.

OUR TOWN RESIDENTS HAVE ALREADY CONTRIBUTED 2,600.00 TO IMPROVE OUR APPLICATION. MONEY WOULD BE REFUNDED TO THEM IF OUR APPLICATION IS NOT APPROVED.

WE ALSO HAVE FIVE OTHER GRANT APPLICATIONS WE HAVE NOT HEAR FROM.

ALSO IT SOUNDS LIKE DUNN COUNTY WILL BE DOING SOME. THING TO HELP US. THE HAVE SEVERAL COMMITTEES TO GO THROUGH SO I AM NOT SURE IF IT WILL BE MUCH HELP.. I DID EXPRESS THAT TIME WAS OF THE ESSENCE.

WE APPRECIATE YOUR TIME AND EFFORT BUT I FEEL WE SHOULD GET OUR APPLICATION IN. IF YOU NEED ANY THING ELSE PLEASE LET ME KNOW

JAMES G ACKERLUND, TREASURER
TOWN OF GRANT, DUNN COUNTY, WIS.
N9711 COUNTY ROAD M
COLFAX, WI. 54730
715-962-3036
jamesackerlund@yahoo.com

The emergency meeting for the Town of Grant was held January 27, 2022. All board members were present.

Chairman Mark Dietsche called the meeting to order.

Jim Ackerlund has been working with both Bloomer Telephone and Mosaic Telecom to bring broadband into our township. Due to the delays of attempting to work with Bloomer Telephone, Jim has proposed continuing forward with Mosaic Telecom only.

Mosaic Telecom has already formulated maps and a distribution timeline for broadband for our community.

Jim has applied to the Bremer Bank and RCU grant programs for additional funding for broadband for the Town of Grant.

Motion to contract Mosaic Telecom to provide broadband to all under-served and unserved households in the Town of Grant. Motion made by David Buchner, seconded by Brad Larson, motion passed.

Motion to provide Mosaic Telecom all ARPA funding allotted to the Town of Grant as of this day, January 27th, 2022. Motion made by Brad Larson, seconded by David Buchner, motion passed.

Brad Larson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Dave Buchner. Motion carried.

Roseann Bowe, Clerk

RE:

From: Meyer, Chris (meyer.christopher@marshfieldclinic.org)

To: jamesackerlund@yahoo.com

Date: Monday, January 31, 2022, 07:52 AM CST

James,

Thanks for your email. I am happy to provide a letter of support for your project from MCHS.

I will be writing letters the second half of Feb with a goal of having them out to their recipients by March 1st. I believe applications are due on 3/17.

MCHS is willing to provide a contribution to this project. We have not funded a project for your township to-date. We are able to provide matching funds of \$10,000 to your project should the PSC award it funds. We can make this a contribution to the Township or, if you are working with an ISP, we can make it payable to them.

Let me know which you prefer and I'll get a letter to you in the next 30-days.

Chris

From: James Ackerlund <jamesackerlund@yahoo.com>
Sent: Saturday, January 29, 2022 12:41 PM
To: Meyer, Chris <meyer.christopher@marshfieldclinic.org>
Subject: [EXTERNAL]

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the Marshfield Clinic Health System. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

YOUR NAME WAS GIVEN TO ME BY DAVID HAYDEN. OUR TOWNSHIP (TOWN OF GRANT, DUNN COUNTY) IS INTERESTED IN APPLYING FOR A GRANT

TO IMPROVE OUR INTERNET FROM LOW SPEED TO HIGH SPEED. THE STATE OF WISCONSIN HAS A PROGRAM WE CAN APPLY FOR THE BULK

Jim Ackerlund 1-31-22

FY2022 Grant Township FTTP Broadband Expansion – CTC Telcom dba Mosaic Technologies

January 31, 2022

Directors
Town of Grant – Dunn County
Colfax, WI 54730

Dear Directors,

We understand that grant funding is available to bring high-speed internet service to our area. We feel it is vital that the internet service be upgraded as soon as possible. In this time of the Covid pandemic, many families are either working from home or the students are expected to do distance learning. The current internet service is substantially inadequate. It is our desire for the Town of Grant to proceed as necessary in the process.

Thank you for the dedication you all have as members of the Board of Directors.

Sincerely,



Ken & Kathy Tape
E8442 1100th Ave.
Colfax, WI 54730

715-962-3383

February 6, 2022

Wisconsin Public Service Commission
North Tower, 6th Floor
Hills Farms State Office Building
4822 Madison Yards Way
Madison, WI 53705

Dear Broadband Expansion Grant Evaluator,

We are writing in support of the Broadband Expansion grant application being submitted by Mosaic Technologies that would bring fiber to the premises of everyone in the Dunn County Town of Grant that is currently unserved or underserved. We are one of the few lucky families in the Town of Grant that CenturyLink can provide internet access to at speeds "up to 25 Mbps" – emphasis on "up to". While 25 Mbps is the advertised speed, that is rarely if ever the actual speed. The other issue is that the service is not synchronous. Upload speed is extremely important for remote work especially when participating in virtual meetings and when uploading files to central servers or to the cloud.

While this project would benefit us by enabling us to better work remotely and participate in telehealth, it is our neighbors and friends that would really benefit. They do not have access to high-speed internet service like we do. Some are even limited to dial-up internet service.

The Town of Grant is zoned exclusive agriculture and is very rural. Please consider this as you evaluate this grant application. This grant is an excellent opportunity for all residents in the rural northwestern Wisconsin Town of Grant to get access to high-speed internet like so many others across the State of Wisconsin.

Sincerely,

Dave and Rhonda Hayden
N10251 County Road W
Colfax, WI 54730
715-962-3736

January 26, 2022

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

We are writing to express our concern about the lack of fast, reliable, and safe internet available in our area. We feel strongly that everyone needs to have access to internet capabilities that fiber optic provides in this day and age. The outdated service we currently have does not allow us everyday options that homes in more populated areas have had for quite some time. Listed below are a number of concerning issues and features that are needed to bring us up to date with current times:

1. We are unable to stream television programming.
2. We are unable to consider having a home security system.
3. We are unable to use WI-FI calling on our cell phones.
4. Students in rural areas need to have the ability to learn at home and with access to fast, reliable internet in order to be successful in their educational journey more so now than ever, due to the COVID pandemic.
5. At the present, there is no option for competition between providers of internet, phone, and/or television viewing. This is detrimental and ensures high costs of existing services.
6. It is sometimes impossible to download or upload any products or services available to those with fiber optic internet. We simply do not have the needed bandwidth to allow these services.

It is important to also stress that fiber optics provides much more security from internet pirating and personal identification safety, which is a growing threat in our daily lives. It is a cost to society that is probably impossible to calculate.

Just last fall fiber optic cable was buried so close to our home that it wouldn't be a big stretch to get it onto our property (less than ¼ mile). I implore you to seriously consider getting our rural community connected to the speed of life within the very near future.

STATE SENATOR KATHY BERNIER
TWENTY-THIRD SENATE DISTRICT



State Capitol • P.O. Box 7882 • Madison, WI 53707
Office: (608) 266-7311 • Toll Free: (888) 437-9436
Sen.Bernier@legis.wi.gov • www.SenatorBernier.com

February 22, 2022

Steffany Powell Coker
Secretary to the Commission
Public Service Commission of Wisconsin
North Tower, 6th Floor
4822 Madison Yards Way
Madison, WI 53705

On behalf of the residents of the Township of Grant in Dunn County and the surrounding area, I am writing to express my strong support for Mosaic Technologies' Broadband Expansion Grant application that will aid these areas in the district I represent in the State Legislature.

Residents in rural areas need access to high speed internet to help reach emergency services quickly, to participate in the online economy, to pursue educational opportunities, and to help maintain their position in the workforce or to re-enter it in the unfortunate event of a job loss.

Mosaic Technologies has consistently served the residents of Dunn County and has shown great commitment to their customers by continuing to improve and expand their infrastructure with this grant. The company plans to improve broadband service by upgrading the fiber network to increase internet speeds up to 10 Gbps for several underserved areas.

Mosaic Technologies' plan is an indication of the company's vision and familiarity with the area's needs and how to fulfill them. This proposal will meet a real need in our area and I hope that it will serve as a model for internet providers in underserved rural towns that are in need of assistance. With a growing reliance on the internet and online services, I am confident that this project will provide broadband internet and a world of new opportunities for my constituents.

I strongly support this critical project and appreciate your consideration of this important grant application. If you have any further questions about the Mosaic Technologies' Broadband Expansion Grant application, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kathy Bernier".

Kathy Bernier
State Senator
23rd Senate District



ROB SUMMERFIELD

STATE REPRESENTATIVE • 67th ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

February 16, 2022

Chairperson Rebecca Valcq
Public Service Commission of Wisconsin
4822 Madison Yards Way
Madison, WI 53705

Dear Chairperson Valcq:

I strongly support Mosaic Technologies' broadband expansion grant application to help fund their project in the Township of Grant in Dunn County and the 67th Assembly District.

As the Representative of the 67th Assembly District, I know my constituents would greatly benefit from reliable broadband connection. Broadband is increasingly important to residents' ability to work or learn remotely and utilize telehealth virtually. The increased broadband access this grant can provide will significantly impact this area in a positive way, making it a more desirable place to live and work.

The Township of Grant knows how beneficial this grant can be, which is why they initiated the project and pledged township funds towards it. This project is proactive and will provide residents with all the emerging opportunities that broadband connection can bring.

My constituents and I thank you for your fair and full consideration of this application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Rob Summerfield".

Rep. Rob Summerfield



School District of Colfax

601 UNIVERSITY AVENUE
COLFAX, WISCONSIN 54730
PHONE: 715-962-3155 FAX: 715-962-4024



Respect - Responsibility - Results

W. C. YINGST, JR.
SUPERINTENDENT
wyngst@colfax.k12.wi.us
715-962-3773

J. E. DACHEL
MS/HS PRINCIPAL
dachel@colfax.k12.wi.us
715-962-3155

T. P. HOVDE
ELEM PRINCIPAL
hovde@colfax.k12.wi.us
715-962-3676

P. B. RUDI
DIRECTOR OF
SPECIAL EDUCATION
pollyrudi@colfax.k12.wi.us
715-962-3676

BOARD OF EDUCATION
TODD KRAGNESS
PRESIDENT

KENNETH NEUBURG
VICE-PRESIDENT

ANDREW DE MOE
CLERK

KYLE KNUTSON
TREASURER

JACLYN ACKERLUND
DIRECTOR

KENNETH BJORK
DIRECTOR

JODI KIEKHAFFER
DIRECTOR

Mr. James Ackerlund
Town of Grant
N10360 County Road W
Colfax, WI. 54730

I am writing this to express our support for broadband expansion for MOSAIC Technologies, to be awarded grant money to expand their fiber services into the School District of Colfax. We are a 1:1 school with over 1,000 chrome books purchased, at \$300 each, for a total expenditure of over \$300,000 with each child receiving a Chromebook to complete their work at school and to include completing their work at home. We see a definite disparity in broadband services between urban and rural children, with the rural children being left behind. There is currently no equitable access to broadband in our outlying areas, with our children struggling to receive enough, if any, Internet service to perform needed tasks such as assignments or research for projects. The need for broadband is paramount, not only for our children, but the overall health of the district. This access makes our area more attractive to prospective businesses and homebuyers, increasing our student base, and in-turn increasing our economic viability to the area. We wholeheartedly support this initiative, indicated by our Private/Public Partnership with MOSAIC Technologies. Please, strongly consider MOSAIC Technologies for this grant, our children's future is dependent on it.

Yours Truly,

William Yingst
Superintendent
Colfax School District

The School District of Colfax prohibits discrimination against any person in employment, educational programs and activities on the basis of sex, race, religion, color, ancestry or national origin, age, creed, sexual orientation, marital or parental status, or disability (genetic information) or any other basis prohibited by law.



**Dunn Energy
Cooperative**

N5725 600th Street, P.O. Box 220
Menomonie, WI 54751-0220
Phone: 715-232-6240
Toll Free: 800-924-0630
Fax: 715-232-6244
www.dunnenergy.com

To: Mr. James Ackerlund
Town of Grant
Dunn County, WI.

Fr: Jesse Singerhouse
General Manager/CEO
Dunn Energy Cooperative

Re: Letter of support for Town of Grant – Mosaic Fiber project

Mr. Ackerlund,

I write today in full support of the Town of Grant – Mosaic Fiber project grant application. One of our strategic priorities is to help our rural members achieve greater broadband access to their homes, farms and businesses. We feel that this project, proposed by the Town of Grant and Mosaic, will be a benefit towards that strategic objective and benefit the members we serve in the Town of Grant.

Within the proposed project areas there are over 140 of our members that have homes and farms. Also included in this project area is one of our electric substations which currently use cell technology to provide us data. Having access to broadband at the substation location will increase the reliability of receiving meter and power quality data. More reliable data will allow us to provide our members with more energy information and increase the efficiency in how we serve our members. Having fiber at the substation will also allow us to consider the future addition of certain technologies for power quality. From a member standpoint, having fiber at their homes and farms will be an investment to help ensure that our rural areas remain strong and connected to opportunities. If you have any further questions please feel free to contact me at 715-232-6240 or via email at housej@dunnenergy.com

Sincerely,

Jesse Singerhouse
General Manager/CEO
Dunn Energy Cooperative

Wisconsin State Telecommunications Association



President
TIM KUSILEK
President Elect
JUSTIN HUEBNER
Executive Director
BILLESBECK

March 16, 2022

Chairperson Rebecca Valcq
Public Service Commission of Wisconsin
4822 Madison Yards Way
North Tower - 6th Floor
Madison, Wisconsin 53705-9100

Chairperson Valcq,

I am pleased to support the FY2022 Broadband Expansion Grant Program (BEGP) application of Mosaic Technologies (Mosaic) in Spooner Lake.

For more than 60 years, Mosaic has been a leader in the rural telecommunications industry. They offer quality telecommunications products and services, including high speed internet, video entertainment, and local and long-distance telephone.

The proposed expansion in Spooner Lake will install 51.5 miles of fiber, bringing future-proof fiber broadband to 507 locations. The cost of the \$4.56 million project will be offset with matching funds from Mosaic and other local stakeholders.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of this application. Please let me know if you have any questions or if I can assist with additional information.

Regards,

Bill Esbeck

122 W. Washington Ave., Suite 1050 • Madison, WI 53703 • PHONE: 608.256.3866 • WEB SITE: www.wsta.info



March 16, 2022

Mr. Dennis Klaila
Public Service Commission of Wisconsin
4822 Madison, Yards Way
North Tower – 6th Floor
Madison, WI 53705-9100

Dear Mr. Klaila,

White Construction has a mutually successful partnership in place with Mosaic Technologies. In 2021 we partnered with them to build PSC grants in the Prairie Farm and Sand Creek exchanges, completing roughly 300 miles of mainline cable within a tight schedule. We will soon be under contract to build all five of their awarded 2021 PSC grants. We are poised to make significant progress on that work in the coming months. One key element that impacts the success of these projects is that White provides many of the materials. This alignment works well for both parties and helps to avoid the supply chain delays associated with many key materials.

Mosaic is applying for Broadband Expansion Grants in Washburn, Barron, Sawyer, and Dunn Counties. White Construction is committed to making this work a priority and will supply key materials to Mosaic if they are awarded these grants. White carries a large inventory of fiber optic cable and other critical materials. We will be able to allocate a portion of that inventory to Mosaic's grant projects, thereby adding to the likelihood of successful and timely completion of the work.

Mosaic is a key partner of ours. We have a proven track record of completing large projects together in a timely manner and are well positioned to build on that success. Expanding this partnership offers a great opportunity to improve communication services in unserved parts of Wisconsin.

We support and endorse Mosaic's application for this and future Broadband Expansion Grants.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Joel Schultz'.

Joel Schultz
Project Manager, White Construction
joels@whiteconstruction.net
920-543-5687

(920) 885-9932



200 Front Street



Suite 3A

PO Box 900



Beaver Dam, WI 53916